



The Catholic Parish of Bishop's Stortford



*St Joseph and the English Martyrs, Bishop's Stortford
Holy Cross, at St Andrew's, Church Lane, Much Hadham
Most Holy Redeemer, Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth*
Parish Priest: Fr Peter Harris • Assistant Priest: Fr Carlos Quito

Parish Office: Windhill Churches Centre, 1st Floor • 10am - 3pm Monday to Friday
Postal Address: 3 Windhill, Bishops Stortford, Herts CM23 2ND
Tel: 01279 654063 • Email: bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk • Website: <http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/bishopsstortford>
Live streaming from St Joseph's: www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford
Diocese of Westminster Charity No. 233699

Sunday 8th September 2019 – 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
9am Mass – Special intention - Georgina
11am Mass – Leo Brady RIP
6pm Mass – Marjorie Jessop RIP

Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth)
9am Mass- People of the Parish

Holy Cross (at St Andrew's, Church Lane, Much Hadham):
11.15am Mass – People of the Parish

Monday 9th September – St Peter Claver, Priest
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
9.30am Mass – Alexander & Lubov Bainov RIP

Tuesday 10th September – feria
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
9.30am Mass – Private Intention

Wednesday 11th September – feria
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
9.30am Mass – Special Intention Patricia Nash

Thursday 12th September – The Most Holy Name of Mary
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
9.30am Mass – Louise Boruch RIP
9.30am/11am/1.30pm Mass St Mary's School

Friday 13th September – St John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
9.30am Mass – People of the Parish

Saturday 14th September – The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
5pm-5.45pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament &
Sacrament of Reconciliation
6pm Mass - Sister Ruth Intention

Sunday 15th September 2019 – 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Joseph and the English Martyrs:
9am Mass – John Mc Combes RIP
11am Mass – Thanksgiving – Christina Njenga
12.30pm Baptism - James Daniel Forbes
6pm Mass – Fernanda Braz RIP

Most Holy Redeemer (Sayesbury Road, Sawbridgeworth)
9am Mass- Albert Foley RIP

Holy Cross (at St Andrew's, Church Lane, Much Hadham):
11.15am Mass – People of the Parish

Mass requests

Please fill in the envelope provided, the date & time you would like the Mass with a contact number/ E-mail address and hand in to the Sacristy, Parish Office or 3 Windhill with any donation. Thank you very much.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND 14-21 MAY 2020

We are preparing the details for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land on the above dates. At the moment, we have received a quote of £1,333 which includes the following:

- Round-trip flights by El Al (including taxes)
- 1 piece of checked in luggage up to 23 kg.
- Transfers and touring by private coach in Israel.
- Accommodation based on sharing a twin-bedded room (breakfast and dinner included):
 - 3 nights at Plaza Nazareth Hotel, Nazareth
 - 4 nights at 7 Arches Hotel, Jerusalem.
- Entrance fees appropriate to the itinerary.
- Tour manager/guide while in Israel.
- Arrangement of religious services.
- ATOL and ABTA financial protection.

Please speak with Fr. Peter or Fr. Carlos for further information.
There is now a sign-up sheet in the Sacristy for those interested.

THANK YOU – to everyone who helped to clean the WCC yesterday
YOUNG SEEKERS MEETINGS – The Vocations Promotion Team has begun a new group called Young Seekers. Led by Fr Mike Maguire, the Assistant Vocations Promoter, this group aims to attract men in their late teens and early twenties to meet regularly and share their hopes and maybe their uncertainties about the call of the Lord. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 26th September from 6.45pm up until 8.30pm. The topic for the evening is 'Formation for priesthood and the expectations offered in the new Ratio Fundamentalis'. Each session to end with night prayer, followed by a visit to the pub. For details, contact Fr Mike Maguire at vocations@rcdow.org.uk

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE – The next course with Fr Carlos will be on Thursday 19 September at 7.30pm in the WCC

NOTICE OF OFFICE CLOSURE – Debbie is away from 2/9 – 13/9 inclusive and will deal with all enquiries immediately upon her return. The answerphone will be checked daily for urgent matters by Fr Peter and Fr Carlos

VOLUNTEER NEEDED – Grove Cottage are looking for someone to help with DIY, gardening and general maintenance jobs. If you have 3-4 hours a month to spare Please contact Monica Baker volunteer@mencapgrovecottage.org or call 01279 656085



WELCOME BACK to FR CARLOS who has returned from the USA. We also welcome back to Holy Cross and Most Holy Redeemer our Parishioners who worship there each week as our usual Mass schedule resumes. Thank you to **EVERYONE** who has looked after our Churches during the summer period and to those who have helped others to attend Mass at St Joseph's or have taken the Blessed Sacrament to those who are sick or housebound.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2020 – The application process has now **CLOSED**. The first Parents meeting will be on Tuesday 17th September 7.30pm-8.30pm in the Parish centre and the first Children's session on Saturday 21st September 10.30am – 12pm.



DEFIBRILLATOR UPDATE – Thank you VERY much indeed to everyone who kindly contributed towards the cost of the defibrillator. We now have our cabinet installed complete with the required electrics and are awaiting delivery of the defibrillator itself from the British Heart foundation. We will be supplied with a training device and DVD and hope to run regular sessions in the WCC and train as many people as possible in how to use it along with CPR should the situation ever arise. In the meantime please take some time to look at the video and lifesaving info on our web site



REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS – will start back in the WCC this Sunday 8th September 2019. Thank you to our wonderful team of volunteers who generously organise the rota, buy supplies, make tea, clear up and kindly give their time and friendship to others in our parish.

ENCOUNTER – New programme of meetings for Sept 2019 - May 2020 is now available at the back of the Church and on the parish website. All welcome either to attend on a regular basis or to drop in to one or two meetings. For more information on the programme or enquiries contact: 01279 652060. The next Encounter meeting is Fri 20th Sept in the WCC. **'Pope Francis; A man of his word'** A DVD (90 mins) directed by Wim Wenders; followed by group discussion. 10am coffee; 10.20 am meeting opens; 12.30pm shared lunch (please bring lunch to share); 2pm meeting ends. Enquiries: 01279 652060
RCIA COME & SEE – If you are you interested in Adult Baptism, Reception to the Church or Adult Confirmation, please see Fr Carlos on Monday 23rd September 2019 at 8pm in the WCC for more information

ANNUAL MASS FOR BEREAVED PARENTS – The annual Mass for Bereaved Parents will be held on Saturday 26th October, 2.30pm at St Aloysius Church, Somers Town, 20 Phoenix Road, London, NW1 1TA celebrated by Bishop Paul McAleenan.



'Anyone who does not carry their own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple'

HOME MISSION DAY – Next weekend there will be a collection for the Home Mission Appeal.

HOME MISSION SUNDAY 15TH SEPT 2019

On the weekend of 14th/15th September 2019, we celebrate **Home Mission Sunday** - an opportunity to look closer to home as we grow Missionary Parishes and form Missionary Disciples. Here are a few ideas of activities you might like to consider doing over the coming weeks:

- WELCOME** those Catholics in our local community who are not active in their faith:
- Welcome families with children starting school – with a blessing and a coffee morning.
- Invite family members or friends who haven't been to church for a while, to make a visit – to a Mass or other liturgy that is particularly welcoming for them - with tea & cake to follow, and parishioners ready to welcome them!
- For those who can't get to Sunday Mass because of old age, disability or home commitments - how could you rally round to help?
- REACH OUT** to those who may be interested in hearing more about Jesus Christ and his Church:
- Invite those who are married to a non-Catholic to bring their spouse along to a social on the evening after Mass, where they can share with other couples their thoughts on the importance of faith in their lives.



HOLY TRINITY WINTER NIGHT SHELTER provides emergency shelter and supportive services to people who are homeless or at risk and also collaborates for locally driven solutions to end homelessness. On Saturday 28th September between 11am – 4pm there will be an informal Open day to promote the work of the Night Shelter and all are welcome to visit.

PENNY COLLECTION – Please remember that our Penny collection at St Joseph's this year is for the Night Shelter. Both pennies and pound coins gratefully accepted!

LAY CHAPLAIN VACANCY – at St Elizabeth's. Closing Date: 18th September 2019. See www.stelizabeths.org.uk or telephone 01279 844524 for more info.



Parish Administrator – Debbie Jackson
Parish Office: 01279 654063 (9am-3pm Mon - Fri)
Parish Centre Bookings and All Enquiries:
bishopsstortford@rcdow.org.uk
Safeguarding enquiries only
bishopsstortfordsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk



Collections 31 / 8 & 1/9 2019 Loose Coin & Envelopes / July D/ Debit
St Josephs and the English Martyrs:
Collection: Loose- £ TBC Envelopes-ETBC D/D - £7,534.84
Holy Cross
NO COLLECTION D/D £1,210.00
Most Holy Redeemer:
NO COLLECTION D/D £645.33



Baptism: Forms and information are available from the Parish Office.
Marriage: enquiries call the Parish Office or email
RCIA: Applications open
First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion
Applications closed 4/9
Confirmation: Applications closed

Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy; hail, our life, our sweetness, and our hope! To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to you do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, your eyes of mercy towards us; and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

COLLECT

O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption,
look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters,
that those who believe in Christ may receive true freedom
and an everlasting inheritance.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING Wisdom 9:13-18

A reading from the book of Wisdom.
What man can know the intentions of God?
Who can divine the will of the Lord?
The reasonings of mortals are unsure
and our intentions unstable;
for a perishable body presses down the soul,
and this tent of clay weighs down the
teeming mind.
It is hard enough for us to work out what is
on earth,
laborious to know what lies within our reach;
who, then, can discover what is in the
heavens?
As for your intention, who could have learnt
it, had you not granted Wisdom
and sent your holy spirit from above?
Thus have the paths of those on earth been
straightened
and men been taught what pleases you,
and saved, by Wisdom.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 89

Response:
O Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to the next.

1 You turn men back into dust
and say: "Go back, sons of men."
To your eyes a thousand years

are like yesterday, come and gone,
no more than a watch in the night. (R.)

- 2 You sweep men away like a dream,
like grass which springs up in the
morning.
In the morning it springs up and flowers:
by evening it withers and fades. (R.)
- 3 Make us know the shortness of our life
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?
Show pity to your servants. (R.)
- 4 In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:
give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

SECOND READING Philémon 9-10, 12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to
Philémon.

This is Paul writing, an old man now and,
what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus.
I am appealing to you for a child of mine,
whose father I became while wearing these
chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him
back to you, and with him – I could say – a
part of my own self. I should have liked to
keep him with me; he could have been a
substitute for you, to help me while I am in
the chains that the Good News has brought
me. However, I did not want to do anything
without your consent; it would have been
forcing your act of kindness, which should be
spontaneous. I know you have been deprived
of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so
that you could have him back for ever, not
as a slave any more, but something much
better than a slave, a dear brother; especially
dear to me, but how much more to you,
as a blood-brother as well as a brother in
the Lord. So if all that we have in common
means anything to you, welcome him as you
would me.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 14:25-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Luke.
Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way
and he turned and spoke to them. "If any
man comes to me without leaving his father,
mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters,
yes and his own life too, he cannot be my
disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross
and come after me cannot be my disciple.
"And indeed, which of you here, intending
to build a tower, would not first sit down and
work out the cost to see if he had enough
to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the
foundation and then found himself unable
to finish the work, the onlookers would all
start making fun of him and saying, 'Here is a
man who started to build and was unable to
finish.' Or again, what king marching to war
against another king would not first sit down
and consider whether with ten thousand
men he could stand up to the other who

advanced against him with twenty thousand?
If not, then while the other king was still a
long way off, he would send envoys to sue
for peace. So in the same way, none of you
can be my disciple unless he gives up all his
possessions."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with
the Father;

through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

(all bow during the next three lines)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the
Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of
sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the
dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O God, who give us the gift of true prayer and
of peace,
graciously grant that, through this offering,
we may do fitting homage to your divine
majesty
and, by partaking of the sacred mystery,
we may be faithfully united in mind and heart.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant that your faithful, O Lord,
whom you nourish and endow with life
through the food of your Word and heavenly
Sacrament,
may so benefit from your beloved Son's great
gifts
that we may merit an eternal share in his life.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.

THE COST OF BEING A DISCIPLE

(LUKE 14:25-33)

As Jesus journeys towards Jerusalem,
a large crowd gathers around him,
and he turns and speaks to them. To
be a disciple of Jesus is a choice: no
one is compelled to follow him.

There is also a cost: the following of
Jesus must be the prism through which
the person should see the rest of their life
and their relationships: even the closest
human bonds have to be reassessed in the
light of this. It is not a question of actually
hating anyone. Jesus is not speaking in
emotional terms: he is saying that if anyone
is more important to the would-be disciple,
then the person should think again. He
expresses the same idea in the examples
of the builder and the warrior-king: they
are about to embark on ambitious projects,
but they would be wise to consider
seriously whether or not they will be able
to complete their undertaking. Unless
a person can be single-minded in their
following of Jesus, then they should think
twice about joining him. The mention of the
person carrying their own cross reminds
us that this is not simply another general
way of talking about discipleship, but that
each person has their own individual path
to tread. ■

DO

Put a cross in your pocket in the morning
for a few days and carry it with you. Finger
it every so often and think about what it
means to you to be a disciple of Jesus.

REFLECT

One reason why certain biblical
passages cause so much distress
to people is that the literal English
translation can sometimes convey a
narrower meaning than that which the
original text intends. The verb "to hate"
in today's passage is a case in point:
it is not meant to convey the sense of
"to despise". Perhaps a better way
of understanding it would be "to be
detached from": it is saying that nothing,
and no one, even those to whom we
are naturally closest, should be more
important to us than Jesus. Often the
Bible will use exaggerated language or
examples to make an important point.
So the lesson is that to be a disciple is
the result of a choice, a choice which
each person has to make for themselves.
Simply being baptised as an infant is not
enough. The best catechetical instruction
will not make the person a disciple.

Going to a Catholic or other Christian
school is no guarantee that the person
will turn what they have received into
a personal commitment. Many "cradle
Catholics" have a sneaking envy about
those who come into the Church at a
later stage in their life, because they feel
that these individuals have made a truly
personal decision for themselves, and
simply renewing their own baptismal
promises at Easter is not quite the same
thing.

The cross which each one of us has to
carry need not be necessarily something
which is painful and burdensome. It
is a reminder that to be a disciple of
Jesus comes with a cost: for Jesus it
symbolises his giving of his life in service
of all; but the cross is also the means by
which Jesus entered into glory; it will be
the same for us. ■

LEARN

To "hate" (in this context) does not mean to
"despise".

It is an example of biblical exaggerated
language, emphasising that the disciple must
regard Jesus as the most important person
in their life.

The Fourth Commandment stresses the
honour and respect due to a person's
parents.

SAY

Anyone who does not
carry their own cross
and come after me
cannot be my disciple
(see Luke 14:27)